

Urban District of Kenilworth.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1947,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH


OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

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1, MILVERTON HILL,
LEAMINGTON SPA.

September, 1948.

To the Kenilworth Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1947, this is the 29th Annual Report I have presented to you.

As in the past few years this Report is restricted to a statement of facts, but a more extended report is given by the Sanitary Inspector.

Kindness has been extended to me by members of the Council and my colleagues, for which I am most grateful.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health

Kenilworth Urban District

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1947	...	...	9,780
Birth Rate	...	...	21.6
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	9
Death Rate	...	...	10.3
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	{ From Sepsis ,, other causes		—
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	52
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	55
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	1
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

The Birth-rate was higher than for the previous ten years.

The Death-rate was higher than in 1946, but much about the average for the past 5 years.

The Infant Mortality rate was higher than in 1946, and also higher than that for England and Wales, viz., 41.

Statistics for England and Wales are shown at the foot of Table II.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

1. *Public Health Officers*.—Your Additional Sanitary Inspector resigned in June of this year, and the appointment was not filled. The staff is therefore as follows :—

One combined post—Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.
One Assistant Surveyor.
One part-time Clerk.

3.—*Laboratory Facilities*.—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria	... 1	... 30	... 31
Enteric Fever	... —	... —	... —
Tuberculosis	... 2	... 22	... 24
			—
			55
			—

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. (i) *Water Supply*.—This is obtained from the Council's three boreholes, each of which is operated by an electrically driven centrifugal pump. The water is treated by a chlorinator. In the early part of the year, the Harland Pump (to No. 2 Borehole) was reassembled, and apart from this, the three pumps have given satisfactory service throughout the year. Spare working parts have been put into stock against future possible repairs.

The chlorinating apparatus—by Messrs. “ Turn Over ” Filter Co., Ltd., of Belfast, was not working satisfactorily, and it was necessary to dispatch this to the makers for repair. This was done in October and has not been returned.

Repairs were also necessary to the water level recorder situated in No. 1 Pump House.

Repairs have been necessary to the watermains in Waverley Road, Birches Lane, St. John's Street and Park Hill, and watermain extensions have been commenced to the permanent housing estate at Bulkington.

In accordance with the scheme approved for the sinking of a new borehole in Birmingham Road, a complete drainage system was laid to Holly Cottage, and connected to the town's sewerage system.

The number of new services laid was 35, which included 28 houses on the Bulkington Estate, and renewals and repairs were necessary in 26 instances.

The water recorded as pumped totalled 104,616,967 gallons, giving an average of 286,622 gallons per day, as against 266,896 gallons per day in 1946, and 257,315 gallons per day in 1945.

The supply has generally been satisfactory in quality and quantity; 8 specimens of raw water were taken for bacteriological analysis and one for chemical analysis. The results were satisfactory, and showed a high standard of purity.

The matter of tenders for the sinking of a Trial Borehole on the Birmingham Road site is still being pursued, and until these have been finalised and the Ministry of Health's approval obtained, this work cannot proceed.

No special action was taken for treatment of contaminated water.

Most of the houses in the district are fitted with bib taps inside the houses, and it is estimated that about $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent are supplied by means of stand-pipes, which serve about 10 per cent of the population.

Watermains serve all but the very remote parts of the district.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—Major sewer and surface water drain extensions were commenced, by contract, in connection with your Bulkington Housing Estate, and the 28 new houses previously referred to were connected to this system.

43 sewer stoppages were removed during the year.

The Sewage Disposal Works continues to be worked beyond its capacity, and in view of the excess water which has to be dealt with, is working satisfactorily. Asbestos sprinklers fitted during the war years were replaced by metal sprinkler arms, and some of the Sewage flow Recording Apparatus was received during the year. Major modifications, however, are very obviously necessary as soon as circumstances permit.

Tan waste was received at the Disposal Works on two occasions during the year, and was satisfactorily dealt with in each instance.

2. *Rivers and Streams*.—The usual cleaning out of the brook in Henry Street was attended to.

3.—*Public Cleansing*.—House refuse collection has now reverted to a weekly service. All property is provided with moveable, covered, metal dustbins. A fortnightly service is also in operation for the collection of paper, etc.

During the year the following materials were sold :—

Paper	...	...	...	4 tons.
Rags	...	...	...	$8\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.

D. HOUSING.

The usual Table has been completed, and is being kept for reference.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—The number of registrations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order is 28 ; of these 10 were retailers only, 6 producer-retailers, and 12 were producers only. Premises have been visited at intervals, and two informal notices requiring cleansing and minor alterations have been served and complied with.

Three persons are licensed for the sale of Pasteurised Milk, and two for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

(b) *Meat*.—Visits have been made by the Inspector as required.

(c) *Other Trades*.—Bakehouses have been inspected. Two notices were served and complied with.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1939.

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1940	...	10	14	4	18	—	1
1941	...	9	16	2	6	—	1
1942	...	3	11	—	1	—	1
1943	...	—	15	—	16	—	—
1944	...	2	19	—	3	—	—
1945	...	—	30	1	1	—	—
1946	...	5	20	—	9	—	1
1947	...	2	10	—	3	—	1

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases was less than the average for the past 10 years.

Diphtheria.—Two cases were notified, neither had been immunised. There was one death.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—Immunisation continued during the year, and up to December, 31st, 1201 school children had been treated, and 709 children either privately or at Infant Welfare Centres, giving a total of 1,910.

Poliomyelitis.—Five cases were notified, no deaths. Two cases were adults and three children. All were treated in Hospital. Not more than one case occurred in any one household.

School Closures.—Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS			NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
					Non-				Non-	
			Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	...	—	—	...	—
1	—	—	...	—	—	...	—
5	—	—	...	—	—	...	—
15	—	—	...	1	—	...	—
25	1	—	...	—	—	...	—
35	—	—	...	—	—	...	—
45	—	—	...	—	1	...	—
55	1	—	...	—	—	...	—
65 and upwards	1	—	...	—	—	...	—
TOTALS			...	3	—	...	1	—	...	4
			...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—

4 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, 3 being of pulmonary tuberculosis, and one of other forms.

4 deaths were due to pulmonary and one to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis.—The following table shews the cases notified, and deaths for the past 20 years :—

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Cases	13	12	9	10	9	7
Deaths	10	7	6	5	9	3
	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Cases	6	10	10	10	9	10
Deaths	8	5	5	4	4	4
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Cases	14	11	9	10	9	9
Deaths	8	5	2	3	1	3

Treatment.—3 cases were admitted to the Sanatorium for treatment during the year, 4 discharged.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kenilworth Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure, as Sanitary Inspector, in submitting my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1947.

Nuisances.

Notices were served in respect of 238 nuisances, details of which are set out in Table 1.

Infectious Diseases Notification.

18 cases of acute Infectious Disease, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during the year, and of these, 10 cases were Scarlet Fever, 3 Diphtheria and 5 Poliomyelitis. 6 of the Scarlet Fever, 3 of the Diphtheria and 4 of the Poliomyelitis cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and the premises were disinfected in all instances.

Tuberculosis.

Disinfectants are supplied free to necessitous persons suffering from Tuberculosis. Disinfections were carried out in connection with 3 cases during the year.

Disinfection of Premises.

In addition to the disinfection referred to above, two houses were disinfected after death.

Bedding was fumigated in two instances. It has not been found necessary to destroy any bedding during the year.

Water Supply.

After the reassembly of the pump to No. 2 Borehole, the whole of the pumping plant at the Mill End Pumping Station worked satisfactorily. A number of spares have been ordered to cover emergencies.

The three pumps now in operation are all electrically operated, and are giving the following yield :—

No. 1 Borehole.	Mather & Platt Pump.	8,000 gallons per hour.
No. 2 Borehole.	Harland Pump.	12,000 gallons per hour.
No. 3 Borehole.	Pulsometer Pump.	15,000 gallons per hour.

It was found necessary later in the year to send the chlorinator away to the makers for a complete overhaul, and this is still in their hands.

Watermain extensions have been necessary to the new permanent housing estate at Bulkington.

The average daily water consumption for the year has been 286,622 gallons.

5 Certificates have been issued under the Public Health Water Act of 1878.

Drainage and Sewerage.

43 sewer stoppages were removed, and the high points on the sewers where the flow is small have been flushed at regular intervals.

Approximately 500 yards of foul sewer and 600 yards of surface water drain have been laid in connection with your Bulkington Permanent Housing Estate, and a temporary length of sewer was also laid in connection with this contract in St. John's Street.

Sewage Disposal.

The Sewage Disposal Works maintenance has proceeded normally, and the Works has dealt very well with the flow, in view of the continuous overloading which has taken place. Modifications would appear to be becoming urgent, such as the re-design of the settling tanks, and additional humus tanks.

The settling tanks were cleaned out periodically as required, and trade waste from the tan yard was received on two occasions, and satisfactorily disposed of.

Public Cleansing and Salvage.

A weekly collection of house refuse has been maintained during the year, and salvage has been collected, where available, fortnightly. All the materials, with the exception of paper and other salvageable articles, are disposed of by controlled tipping on the Council's land in Dalehouse Lane. This site is rapidly being filled, and new ground will be required in the very near future.

Shops (Shops Act, 1934).

No notices have been served in connection with shop premises under the above Act.

Smoke Abatement.

No complaints have been received in connection with smoke abatement, and no action has been necessary during the year.

Open Air Bathing Pool.

The Open Air Bathing Pool was opened on the 24th May and closed on the 20th September. During that period there were 22,991 attendances. The plant generally ran satisfactorily, and the bath water, which is filtered and chlorinated, was kept up to its usual high standard.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

There were 3 cases where action was required, and in each instance the premises were thoroughly fumigated.

Meat Regulations.

2 notices respecting slaughtering of pigs other than in slaughter-houses were received, and the necessary inspections made.

35 lbs. of lungs and liver.

32 lbs. of beef
were found unfit for human consumption.

Unfit Food.

The following were inspected and condemned as unfit for human consumption, and all the items mentioned, unless otherwise stated, were suitably destroyed :—

Tinned Foodstuffs	...	...	644 tins.
Dates	...	...	35 lbs.
Sultanas	...	...	10 lbs.
Currants	...	...	24 lbs.
Tea	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Bacon	...	...	31 lbs.
Apples	...	...	240 lbs.
Essence	...	...	1 bottle.
Chocolate	...	...	40 bars.
Sweets	...	...	31 packets.
Fish	...	...	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones.
Scotch Oats	...	...	4 packets.
Barley Kernals	...	...	1 packet.
Eggs	...	...	57
Cake Mixture	...	...	8 packets.
Ryvita	...	...	2 packets.
Cheese	...	...	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

(returned to suppliers).

Factories and Workshops.

There are 33 Factories and Workshops on the Register, all of which have been inspected. No notices were necessary.

Bakehouses.

Inspections have been made and two notices were served.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

The number of registrations under the above Order is 28 ; of these 10 are retailers only, 6 producer-retailers, and 12 producers only.

Three persons were registered to sell Pasteurised Milk, and two to sell T.T. milk.

Registered premises have been inspected during the year, and two notices were served.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Rat extermination has continued. A systematic method of pre-baiting has been carried out throughout the year, with good results. Notifications were received of 87 cases, in addition to those normally found, and all of these were attended to.

New Buildings.

During the year plans have been passed for the erection of the following.

- 52 Houses and Bungalows (36 by Local Authority).
- 16 Additions and Alterations to Houses.
- 16 Garages.
- 1 Sectional Building.
- 8 Workshops and Additions.
- 3 Factories and Additions.
- 5 Miscellaneous Buildings.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON.

Surveyor, Water Engineer and Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1947.

				Inspections and observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances abated after notices.
					Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...			264	—	94	41
Lodging Houses	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	12	—	2	2
Cowsheds	...	...	...	18	—	—	—
Bakehouses	...	...	...	2	—	2	2
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	1	—	1	1
Canal Boats	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	...	56	—	35	35
Water Closets	...	...	...	25	—	22	8
House Drainage	...	...	...	29	—	22	17
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	110	—	12	3
Water Supply	...	...	...	49	—	48	29
TOTALS	...	...	...	566	—	238	138

Seizures and Surrenders Unwholesome Food	...	...	No.
			61
Samples of Food taken for analysis (Milk)	...	...	—
Samples of Food found adulterated	...	...	—
Samples of Water taken for analysis	...	...	8
Samples of water condemned as unfit for use	...	...	—

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding disinfected or destroyed	...	...	2
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	18
Schools ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	...	...	—
Convictions ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—
Prosecutions for not notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...	...	—
Convictions ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON,
Surveyor, Water Engineer and Sanitary Inspector

TABLE II.
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1947 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1941	10,840	181	16.7	8	44	140	12.9
1942	10,280	170	16.6	6	35	101	9.8
1943	10,010	168	16.8	3	18	92	9.2
1944	9,730	199	20.5	9	45	101	10.4
1945	9,470	177	18.7	5	28	94	9.9
1946	9,690	184	19.1	9	49	99	10.2
1947	9,780	211	21.6	11	52	101	10.3

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1947.
ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1947.
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

			Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	...	...	20.5	0.50	12.0	41
126 Great Towns, including London			23.3	0.62	13.0	47
148 Smaller Towns ...	...	...	22.2	0.54	11.9	36
London	...	...	22.7	0.49	12.8	37

TABLE III.

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1947.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	2			1		1			2	1
Erysipelas										
Scarlet Fever	10		1	4	3	2			6	
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever										
Pneumonia	3				2			1		2
Malaria										
Dysentery										
Puerperal Pyrexia	1					1				
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis										
Poliomyelitis	5		1	2	1	1				
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Polio-Encephalitis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	3				1		1	1		5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1				1					1
Totals	25	—	2	7	8	5	1	2	8	9

TABLE IV.
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1947.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	49	52
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	1	—
5 Diphtheria	—	1
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	4	1
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
9 Influenza	—	—
10 Measles	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	—	2
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	3	1
15 Cancer of Breast	—	2
16 Cancer, other Sites	2	3
17 Diabetes	—	1
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	5	6
19 Heart Disease	11	13
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	1	6
21 Bronchitis	2	3
22 Pneumonia	2	—
23 Other Resp. Diseases	—	1
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	—	—
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	—	—
26 Appendicitis	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases	3	1
28 Nephritis	4	3
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31 Premature Birth	1	2
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	3	4
33 Suicide	—	1
34 Road Traffic Accidents	1	—
35 Other Violent Causes	1	—
36 All Other Causes	3	1

